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Consent Item

TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER A MASTER'S OF SCIENCE AND A

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

BOULDER

PREPARED BY: MARGOT PLOTZ, ACADEMIC POLICY OFFICER

I. SUMMARY

This consent item recommends approval of the University of Colorado Boulder's (UCB) proposals to offer a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in Architectural Engineering.

II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

The following is summarized from UCB's proposal:

The Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering at UCB proposes new graduate degrees in Architectural Engineering in order to fill a significant gap in the degree offerings and provide advanced training opportunities in the field that are extremely rare not just in Colorado but across the US. Currently, UCB offers a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering. These degrees will be interdisciplinary combining disciplines as diverse as applied mathematics, physical science, technology, and public policy.

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT

This degree supports the role and mission of UCB. The statutory mission states:

The Boulder campus of the university of Colorado shall be a comprehensive graduate research university with selective admission standards. The Boulder campus of the university of Colorado shall offer a comprehensive array of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degree programs. The Boulder campus of the university of Colorado has exclusive authority to offer graduate programs in law. The Colorado commission on higher education, in consultation with the board of regents, shall designate those graduate level programs that are the primary responsibility of the Boulder campus of the university of Colorado. The university has the responsibility to provide on a statewide basis, utilizing when possible and appropriate the faculty and facilities of other educational institutions, those graduate level programs. The commission shall include in its funding recommendations a level of general fund support for these programs. C.R.S. 23-20-101(a)

EVIDENCE OF DEMAND

Over the last few years, there has been a sharp increase in the domain of sustainable building design, high performance buildings, energy efficiency in the build environment and related topics such as continuous commissioning. This trend will most likely continue with the question of recruiting well educated employees in the United States. Many of the faculty are currently recruited internationally. While this is important for diversity, it also indicates a national need for these programs to exist in the United States. UCB is able to play a role in offering these needed additional opportunities to pursue research oriented master's and doctoral degrees in the building sciences. These degrees will also retain students that graduate from UCB with a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering. They will be able to continue their graduate education here in Colorado.

DUPLICATION

There are no other Architectural Engineering graduate degree programs in Colorado.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 23-5-129 (6)(b), department staff finds that UCB's proposed Master's of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Architectural Engineering are consistent with UCB's role and mission.

IV. <u>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the University of Colorado Boulder's proposal to offer a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in Architectural Engineering.

V. <u>SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION</u>

Copies of all relevant materials are on file in the Academic Affairs office and are available upon request.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-5-129